

**Remarks**

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks. For the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is allowable over the cited references.

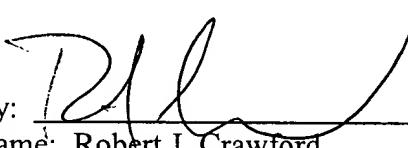
The final Office Action dated June 24, 2004, indicated that claims 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over *Williams et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,218,228); and claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over *Williams et al.* in view of *Blanchard* (U.S. Patent No. 4,345,265).

Applicant has amended claim 6 to further characterize the location of the second connection conductor, *e.g.*, by having the second conductor adjoining the partial region of the second semiconductor region. Applicant has also added new claims 21-24 to similarly limit the claimed invention. The subject matter of new claims 21-24 does not introduce new matter. The claims are believed to be patentable over the cited references, which do not teach or suggest the claimed invention as so characterized.

In view of the remarks above, Applicant believes that each of the rejections has been overcome and the application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any remaining issues that could be readily addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is asked to contact the agent overseeing the application file, Mr. Peter Zawilski, of Philips Corporation at (408) 474-9063.

*Please direct all correspondence to:*

Corporate Patent Counsel  
Philips Intellectual Property & Standards  
1000 West Maude Ave., W2-755  
Sunnyvale, CA 94085-2810

By:   
Name: Robert J. Crawford  
Reg. No.: 32,122  
(VLSI.411PA)

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